Complaints from teachers of aided schools regarding payment of pay.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA.

254. Will the Government be pleased to state whether, during the past 3 years, the Education Department including the Inspectors has received any oral or written complaints from any of the teachers of aided schools, regarding the irregular payment or payment less than the sanctioned or recognised amount of their salaries by the managing authorities? If so, what action has been taken in each? Had any of such cases come to the notice of the departmental officers, and any action taken in the matter?

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

A statement containing the information, so far as can be gathered from the records available, is appended. (*Vide Appendix VII.*)

The minimum strength in Schools.

Mr. I. E. AMBOOKAN.

255. (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the recent order of the Government that every class or division in an aided school should have a minimum strength of 30 is one that can be complied with by all schools in the State?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of applications that have been received by the Director of Public Instruction requesting exemption from the above rule?

(c) Is it a fact that Government does not enforce the above rule in schools conducted by the Government?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to state whether this can be applied equally in both rural and urban areas?

(e) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are schools conducted by the Government which can be abolished or handed over to private agencies without any sort of inconvenience to the Government or the public of the locality?

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

(a) It depends upon the enthusiasm of the Managers, the teachers and the people of the locality. In hard cases exemptions have been granted.

(b) 79.

(c) No; in several schools where the strength was low, classes have been abolished and divisions of classes clubbed.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(d) No; hence the necessity for exemption, as explained in the answer to part (a).

(e) The policy of the Government has been to encourage private agencies, provided economy would be promoted, and the educational interests of the locality would not suffer thereby and to open new Government schools in backward areas with the funds set free.

Complaints from teachers, &c., regarding supersession of claims for promotion.

Mr. C. A. KUNJUNNI RAJA.

256. During the last 3 years how many complaints have been received by the Director and the Diwan, from teachers and other servants of the Educational Department regarding supersession of claims for promotion, and in how many cases have the original orders been modified?

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

A perusal of the records of the period shows that 81 complaints were presented to the Director and 20 to the Diwan. Of the former, the original orders in 3 cases, and of the latter in 2 cases, were revised.

Appointments of School Finals only in the School Department.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR.

257. (a) Is it a fact that the Director of Public Instruction has issued a circular to the effect that none but School Finals should be employed as teachers in the schools of the State, Government and aided, although the *Educational Code* does not require that qualification?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative, is there any special reason for it, and have exemptions been given since then, and if so, who are the persons exempted?

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

(a) No such circular has been issued. With a view to improve the staffs of aided schools, the Inspecting Officers were directed to advise the Managers of aided schools to appoint, as far as possible, complete School Finals, since such hands are available in large numbers.

(b) In view of the answer to part (a) of the question, no answer is necessary.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly